

REMARKS

Claims 38, 39 and 41-46 were previously pending in this application. Claim 41 has been allowed. By this amendment, claims 38, 39, and 42 have been amended. Claim 43 has been cancelled. As a result claims 38, 39, 41, 42, and 44-46 are pending with claims 38 and 41 being independent claims. No new matter has been added.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 38, 39, 42, and 44-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Yahagi et al. Claims 38, 39, and 42-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Kranz et al. Applicants have amended claims 38, 39, and 42 and cancelled claim 43 to overcome the prior art. As currently amended, the claims are not anticipated by the prior art. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments, remarks and arguments, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claims. This application should now be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if this communication does not place the case in condition for allowance.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicants hereby request any necessary extension of time. Please charge any fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Respectfully submitted,
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